

SEQUESTRATION WILL KILL JOBS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I enthusiastically rise to support JOHN CONYERS' H.R. 900, of which I'm an original cosponsor, which is a thoughtful response to legislation that was really hostage-taking, and that is the passage of sequestration almost 2 years ago. Everyone knows it was the need for the debt ceiling to be raised that generated it. But I'm not about excuses. H.R. 900 simply eliminates the sequester provision in the Budget Reconciliation Act. It is thoughtful and allows us to proceed.

However, we will not be able to pass it because our friends on the other side of the aisle are celebrating about the \$85 billion in cuts across the board, hurting seniors, children, and families. And then they want to acknowledge this is the President's fault. Well, the President is willing to not look at poll numbers to be able to fight, to support, and enhance revenues and spending cuts. Thank you, Mr. President, for leading.

For those who say nothing has happened, it's because it has not happened yet, but I will tell you the continuation of sequester is going to hurt the American people and kill jobs. The continuing resolution that devastates those nondiscretionary projects of Head Start and education will also hurt the American people. Let's pass H.R. 900 and begin a process that the American people can buy into and a budget that is fair, with taxes and spending cuts that work on behalf of the American people.

SEQUESTRATION IS WRONG

(Mr. GARCIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA. Let me begin by saying that the district I have the honor to represent in south Florida is made up of middle class families in neighborhoods like Kendall, Westchester, and the Florida Keys. The families who live in this region don't care about ideological debates of the left or right. They simply know the difference between right and wrong. And, ladies and gentlemen, the sequestration is wrong.

The Keys Reporter reported that over 600 civilian workers at Key West Naval Base will be furloughed. This will hurt small businesses and families. Reports also say funding for work-study programs at schools like Miami Dade College, Florida International University, and Florida Keys Community College will be cut. The Miami Herald reported that air traffic control workers at Opa Locka Airport will be furloughed as of the beginning of April.

I respectfully ask my colleagues to put their differences aside and get to work. I urge the Speaker to bring up

H.R. 699, a balanced bill to replace the sequester with spending cuts and revenues.

□ 1230

MARY LOU STOTT'S 80TH BIRTHDAY, VISIT TO U.S. CAPITOL

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to rise today to recognize a very special guest from Hawaii who is here visiting us in Washington this week.

One of my constituents, Tracey Stott Kelly, contacted me recently to set up a United States Capitol tour for her mother's 80th birthday. This wasn't like most other requests that we receive. Her mother Mary Lou's birthday wish was to visit the Capitol to see the work of her great-great-grandfather, who was an assistant to Constantino Brumidi. Mr. Brumidi was best known for the murals he painted in the Capitol over a 25-year period, including "The Apotheosis of Washington," the "Frieze of American History," and the walls of the Brumidi Corridors.

So this Friday, Mary Lou and her 'ohana will receive a very unique tour with Dr. Barbara Wolanin, the curator for the Architect of the Capitol, to highlight the beautiful paintings by Brumidi and to bring Mary Lou closer to her very talented great-great-grandfather.

Happy 80th birthday, Mary Lou. And thank you to Dr. Wolanin for helping to make this very special day a reality.

SEQUESTER

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, the bill before us is a joke. It is only a few sentences, and all it does is ask the President to include in his budget a simple equation that divides the projected deficit by the number of taxpayers. It doesn't take a bill to do this; it just takes a calculator.

If the House Republican Conference wants us to do a math problem for the American people, I can save everyone some time and money. \$845 billion, which is the estimated deficit projected by the CBO, divided by 158 million, which is the number of taxpayers, equals \$5,300. Done.

Can't they do this arithmetic problem on their own? Why are we wasting taxpayers' money to operate this institution as we speak when we can solve this very simple math problem by just doing it. This is all an exercise in political theater.

I shouldn't have to come to the floor to do this. Any of my Republican friends could have called me, and I would have gladly walked them through that simple equation.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents in California's 41st District face an unemployment rate of 11 percent—higher than the national average. They need leadership from Congress to help them find jobs, not gimmicks disguised as legislation.

Our Founders didn't envision Congress assigning math homework. This is not elementary school. If my friends on the other side of the aisle want to talk about numbers, I would be happy to.

Zero, Mr. Speaker: that's the number of jobs this bill creates. Zero: the number or jobs bills the House Republican leadership has brought to the floor in the last 2 months. 750,000: the number of potential job losses if the Republicans refuse to stop the sequester.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913 and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:

Mr. WALZ, Minnesota.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

REQUIREMENT IN BUDGET SUBMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE COST PER TAXPAYER OF THE DEFICIT

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 668) to amend section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, to require that annual budget submissions of the President to Congress provide an estimate of the cost per taxpayer of the deficit, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 668

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REQUIREMENT IN BUDGET SUBMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE COST PER TAXPAYER OF THE DEFICIT.

Section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) redesignating paragraph (37) (relating to the list of outdated or duplicative plans and reports) as paragraph (39); and

(2) by adding at the end the following: